

**STATEMENT OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION ON  
PROPOSED BILL 5994, AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC REQUESTS FOR  
RECORDS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

**March 7, 2011**

The Freedom of Information Commission would like to take this opportunity to comment on PB 5994, An Act Concerning Electronic Requests For Records Under The Freedom Of Information Act.

The Commission supports the bill's purpose, which would add clarity to the requirement that a written request for copies of public records must be answered by public agencies, regardless of the form in which the agency receives the request. Section 1-212(a) of the General Statutes has not been substantively amended to address this issue. In an age where electronic communications are common, amending that section would clarify that a written request for copies of public records is valid, whether received by hand delivery, facsimile, regular mail, certified mail, electronic mail, or other means.

The FOIC welcomes the opportunity to work with this Committee and others to write specific language amending section 1-212(a) to facilitate the bill's purpose.

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